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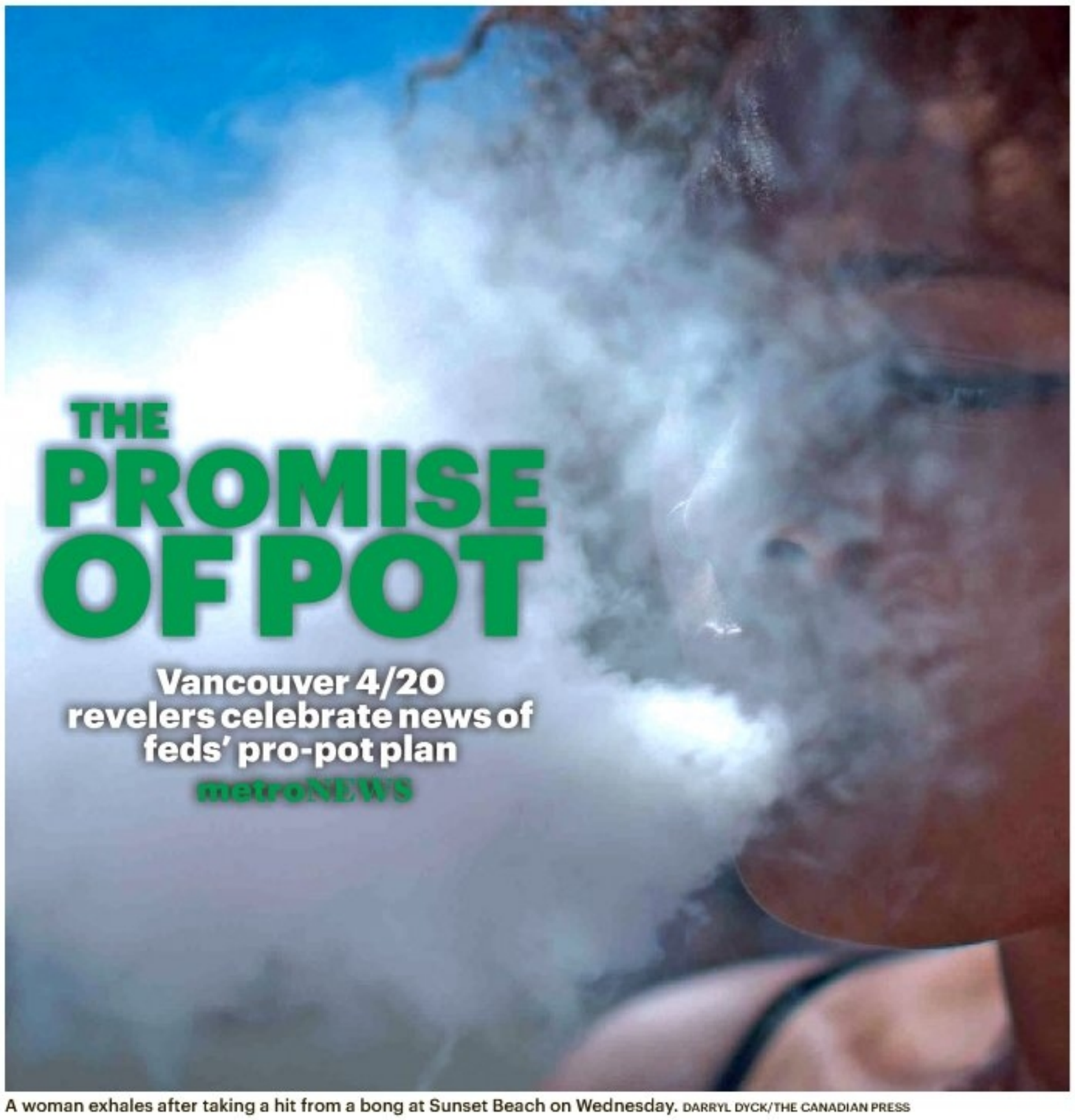

THE PROMISE OF POT

Vancouver 4/20 revelers celebrate news of feds' pro-pot plan

metroNEWS

A woman exhales after taking a hit from a bong at Sunset Beach on Wednesday. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spike in thefts spurs crackdown

FRASER VALLEY

Majority of recent property crimes by drug addicts: RCMP

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

Police in the Fraser Valley region are joining forces in an effort to combat a significant spike in property crime in Abbotsford, Chilliwack and Mission.

The Abbotsford Police Department, Chilliwack RCMP and Mission RCMP are all contributing officers to a dedicated unit that will aim to target property crime in the three jurisdictions.

Dubbed Project Valley Sweep, the three-month initiative is a response to a jump in the rates of vehicle theft, theft from vehicles and break-and-enters — a problem police believe is being fuelled largely by drug addicts who steal to support their habit.

"An unfortunate aspect of repeat property crime offenders who we are dealing with is that they are addicted to drugs and steal to be able to buy drugs," said Abbotsford Chief Const. Bob Rich. "They will continue to commit crime until they are either helped to beat their addiction, or they get locked up."

Between 2014 and 2015, incidences of property crime jumped significantly in the three cities, with vehicle theft up 35 per cent, theft from vehicles up 28 per cent and break-and-enters up 20 per cent, according to statistics provided by police.

According to police, Project Valley Sweep will target repeat and chronic property crime offenders, and will include a mandate for long-term solutions to the property crime problem.

Those arrested who are drug addicted will be offered help to break the repeating pattern, police said.

Insp. Ted De Jager, detachment commander for Mission RCMP, said the project is an example of police resources working together to protect the greater community.

"The notable increase in property crime throughout the eastern Fraser Valley is an issue that affects us all," he said. "This joint forces operation allows us to target the offenders who create the most havoc for our communities and hold them accountable to their court imposed conditions."

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Your essential daily news

Justin Trudeau has been named most stylish politician by GQ. **Canada**

Car-free public square is a go

COMMUNITY

City approves permanent public plaza on Robson Street

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

The Porch Parade was installed on Robson Street during a temporary closure in summer 2015. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

98%

Transportation planner Lon LaClaire told council that 98 per cent of residents surveyed support a public plaza such as ones in Toronto, London and Portland.

Say goodbye to cars and buses and hello to a permanent, public plaza on a block of downtown Vancouver.

Despite complaints from transit users, particularly seniors in the West End, city council voted Wednesday to officially block vehicles from the 800 block of Robson Street in front of the Vancouver Art Gallery to make way for pedestrians and gatherings year-round.

The city temporarily closed the block for seating installations over the past four summers after the plaza was wildly successful during the 2010 Winter Olympics, building up momentum and public support for a permanent closure.

"Transforming Robson Square into a traffic-free, permanent public plaza will bring vibrancy to an underutilized space in the city year round," Mayor Gregor Robertson said in a statement.

"Robson Square is a natural gathering hub at the centre of downtown where residents gravitate to socialize, engage and creatively express themselves. A permanent plaza at Robson Square will be a mainstay to enhance Vancouver's walkability, vibrant culture and liveability."

Transportation planner Lon LaClaire told council that 98 per cent of residents surveyed support a public plaza such as ones in Toronto, London and Portland. LaClaire said the city's engineering department will do a better job at managing the traffic flow with a year-round closure rather than disrupting downtown for only two months of the year.

> Transforming Robson Square ... will bring vibrancy to an underutilized space in the city year round. Mayor Gregor Robertson

But the rerouting of the No. 5 Robson bus will make it more challenging for seniors and people with mobility issues who live in the West End to get to their final destinations, according to people who came to air their grievances with the plan.

Non-Partisan Association Coun. George Affleck argued against approving the plaza, citing a lack of detail in the staff report. But council ultimately approved the plan so staff can hammer out the details moving forward. Staff will now engage the public, develop an official design for the site and figure out who will take care of it — and how much it will cost to operate.

For Charles Gauthier of the Downtown Business Improvement Association, which supports the plaza, it's crucial to have strong, year-round programming so the plaza is well looked after and busy, not barren.

This summer, the city will place umbrellas and bistro tables in the space. It cancelled the annual design competition in order to come up with a long-term plan and due to constraints from major construction to the larger plaza on the north side of the art gallery.

Viva Vancouver, the organization that programs public spaces with events, will not close Granville Street to vehicles this summer to compensate for anticipated traffic from major construction to the Burrard Bridge.

"There is a huge demand for Recreation Professionals, particularly working with seniors."

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Legalization may douse cachet

MARIJUANA

As pot use is normalized, protest culture to fizzle: Expert

Stoner subculture will likely take a hit with the incoming legalization of marijuana in Canada because as the cause vanishes, so will celebration of the drug, say experts.

The declaration comes as the federal government announced a spring 2017 deadline for introducing new marijuana laws and while thousands of people gathered across Canada for the annual April 20 'Weed Day' protest, also known as 4-20.

Protesting against cannabis prohibition has become a social movement with its own ideology and symbols, but that will likely change with the repeal of criminalization, said Benedikt Fischer, a senior scientist with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

"Once marijuana becomes legalized, normalized, mainstream, the cause disappears," said Fischer. "I suspect these things will kind of fizzle away."

Lynne Belle-Isle, co-founder of the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, agreed that with legalization the appeal of smoking up in rebellion could disappear. She said society could benefit as messaging is developed around using the drug more safely.

"Like alcohol, if you see your parents having a glass of wine with dinner, it's no big deal. You learn responsible use if that's what you're exposed to," she said.

"Social norms get created when you're able to do it openly, that doesn't happen when people have to hide."

One of Canada's most prominent pot protests on Wednesday was at Vancouver's Sunset Beach, with participants lighting up and eating marijuana edibles in a traditional act of mass civil disobedience.

And just like past years, a festive atmosphere rose from the crowd of revellers who mingled around a farmer's market-style cluster of vendors, a stage and rows of portable toilets.

Participants buzzed over free guidelines books including a site map, messages about safe marijuana use and political slogans. Organizer Jodie Emery said $100,000 was raised to fund amenities and security for the all-day cannabis culture bash.

Last year, health officials said that more than 60 people were treated in hospital for complaints of symptoms ranging from upset stomachs to acute anxiety and psychosis. Three-quarters of them had consumed edible marijuana products.

Earlier in the day, Health Minister Jane Philpott told a special United Nations session on drugs that the Liberal government is convinced marijuana legalization is the best way to protect youth and enhance public safety.

In an emotional address, she told delegates that Canada must do better when it comes to drug policy.

> **"Like alcohol, if you see your parents having a glass of wine with dinner, it's no big deal. You learn responsible use if that's what you're exposed to."**
> Lynne Belle-Isle

Thousands of people gather at Sunset Beach during the annual 4/20 cannabis culture celebration in Vancouver on Wednesday.
DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

She said Ottawa's approach will be rooted in science.

Longtime marijuana activist David Malmo-Levine, 44, has attended Vancouver's pot protest for nearly two decades and said he believes pot culture is essential to achieving legalization.

"If you make it look fun, more people will participate," he said.

"We're going to dance down the streets and ... puff on our magic flower. Once everyone is free it will turn into a formal celebration. And until everyone is free, it's still a protest."

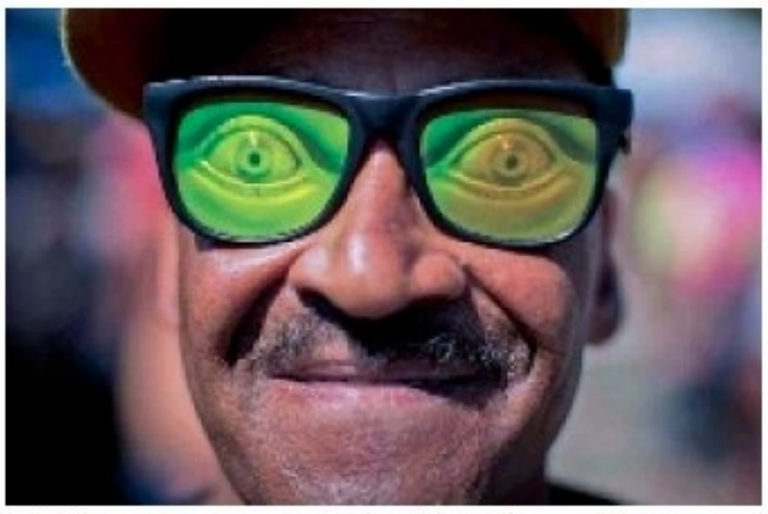
Ellis Worthington, 30, wearing a T-shirt on Sunset Beach reading "I toke and I vote," said he believes legalization will see pot treated like alcohol.

"I think it will become a part of everyday life," he said. "You can go to an event, go to the beer garden and get some bud."

Documentary filmmaker Leandro Vilaca, 33, said legalization will change the way marijuana is branded but it will keep its image as cool and creative.

"As soon as we open it up, it will become like tomatoes," he said."When you go to Kelowna, you see wineries. When you come to Vancouver, you see dispensaries."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Luis Zamora wears a pair of colourful sunglasses with eyes on them during the annual 4/20 cannabis culture celebration at Sunset Beach. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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A former flight attendant has filed a civil claim against WestJet alleging sexist jokes, obscene comments and unwelcome physical contact in the workplace. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

WestJet denies 'allowing harassment'

LAWSUIT

Airline replies to proposed class action by ex-employee

WestJet is rejecting allegations made by a former flight attendant that it fails to provide a harassment-free workplace for its female employees, saying it would not put its reputation at stake by inadequately dealing with complaints.

The Calgary-based airline's response to a civil claim, filed this week in British Columbia Supreme Court, argues against granting class-action status to a lawsuit launched earlier this month by Mandalena Lewis.

"WestJet denies allowing harassment to exist in its workplace," the court document says. "There are clear financial and reputational incentives for WestJet to provide a harassment-free workplace to all employees."

This is the second lawsuit Lewis has filed against WestJet. Earlier this year she filed a civil claim alleging WestJet failed to take proper action after she reported being sexually assaulted by a pilot while on a stopover in Hawaii.

She has said she began the proposed class action when multiple women approached her with similar complaints after she filed her initial lawsuit.

Behaviours mentioned in the latest notice of claim include sexist jokes, obscene comments, unwelcome physical contact and "midnight knocking," which Lewis defines as a request or demand for late-night sexual favours by pilots while on a stopover.

The claim accused the company of protecting "harassers," often pilots, who are considered more economically valuable employees.

Lewis has said she is unsure how many people could be involved if the lawsuit receives class-action certification. Flight attendants make up about a quarter of the more than 11,000 workers WestJet employs.

None of the allegations have been proven in court.

In its response to the latest legal action, the airline argues against class-action approval because it says the circumstances for any given potential plaintiff aren't universal enough to consider them as a group.

WestJet denies allegations that the way it investigates reports of harassment discourages victims from coming forward with complaints and attempts to silence them when they do.

"In fact, the opposite is true," the airline says, rejecting the claim that its approach leads to the underreporting of harassment.

"WestJet's (confidential) investigation process encourages WestJetters to report inappropriate behaviour by allowing them to do so in confidence."

The airline says privacy laws prevent it from disclosing the particulars of an investigation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ CONTROVERSY

Former flight attendant's work record in spotlight

In its response, WestJet also took aim at Lewis' eight-year work record, highlighting the circumstances that led to her firing in January.

"From the beginning of her employment, Lewis had consistently poor attendance," it says, describing the eight instances she was formally disciplined.

The company says it ended Lewis' contract after she sent a manager an email containing a profanity, demanding her employment file, which the company was late in providing.

"Lewis' grossly insubordinate and insolent email, combined with Lewis' extensive disciplinary record, warranted the termination of Lewis' employment for just cause."

Lewis said in an interview Wednesday that WestJet's comments on her employment record are meant to distract from the core issue of flight-attendant safety.

"I'm not a perfect person," Lewis said.

"They can again try and attack my integrity as a flight attendant or my character as a person or my motivations, but I was an excellent flight attendant and I am an excellent person."

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Low pitch, high regard: Study

SCIENCE

UBC researcher connects voices with influence and social rank

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

The Kardashians often get a bad rap for speaking with vocal fry, but new research from the University of British Columbia suggests the famous sisters could be on to something with their low-pitched, gravelly voices.

The study found that people who lower their pitch in the first moments of a conversation are more likely to be viewed as dominant and influential. Those who were viewed as dominant were also more likely to convince others to go along with their ideas, the researchers found.

"We know from previous research that non-verbal behaviours like expansive posture have this effect … but what we found in this study is that it's actually changes in vocal pitch that influence rank or dominance," said Jessica Tracy, associate professor of psychology at UBC and the study's senior author.

Kim Kardashian, Khloe Kardashian, Kendall Jenner, Kylie Jenner and Kourtney Kardashian. The sisters often get a bad rap for speaking with vocal fry, but a new UBC study suggests it helps them cultivate a dominant appearance. DIMITRIOS KAMBOURIS/GETTY IMAGES

For the study, researchers asked 191 participants ages 17 to 52 to rank items they were told they might need to survive a disaster on the moon. The participants then worked in small groups on the same task, before they were asked to privately rate the social rank and dominance of each group member.

After recording the interactions on video, the researchers used software to measure the frequency of each utterance. They also looked at how individual answers converged with the group's final answer.

In a second experiment, the researchers asked 274 participants ages 15 to 61 to listen to audio recordings of three statements, which were manipulated to either increase or decrease the pitch. They found that when the voice went down in pitch, people judged the person as wanting to be more influential, more powerful and more intimidating.

Based on evidence that high-pitched voices are associated with fear, the researchers hypothesized that low-pitched voices would have the opposite effect.

> **"It could be partly a dominance strategy.**
> Jessica Tracy

"That's exactly what we found," said Tracy, who is also writing a book on the subject called Take Pride: Why the Deadliest Sin Holds the Secret to Human Success.

While the findings might suggest that people could intentionally speak deeply to influence others, Tracy said it's too soon to say if that would work, given that the pitch modulations they analyzed happened spontaneously.

Still, it does seem to work for the Kardashians.

"Given that the fry involves a low pitch, it could be partly a dominance strategy," said Tracy. "If so, I wonder if part of the reason people are so up in arms about it is because it's women using a traditionally male strategy to get power."

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EVACUATION

Residents near wildfires can return home

More than 40 wildfires continued to burn Wednesday throughout northeastern B.C., but residents chased from their homes by the flames were allowed to return.

Evacuation orders were lifted in three communities near Fort St. John, though residents in those areas and two others were warned that they should be ready to leave again at a moment's notice.

More help was also on its way to help the 200 personnel either working on the ground or in support roles to battle the blazes.

An air tanker group based in Fort St. John was set to start work Wednesday afternoon and another group based in Prince George was scheduled to join the fight Thursday.

"Traditionally, the air tanker fleet doesn't come on line until later into April," said fire information officer Kevin Skrepnek. "Given the conditions that we've been seeing out there, we did want to bring them on a little bit early."

Twenty new fires were sparked across the province Tuesday, 13 of them in the area overseen by the Prince George Fire Centre, where Fort St. John is located.

"The fire activity we saw on Monday was driven by a really significant weather pattern that came through. We saw winds up to 90 kilometres an hour and highs, in some cases in the area, of up to 28 degrees," Skrepnek said.

"Things have become much more seasonal since then."

The largest fire in the area is near Beaton Airport Road, about 45 kilometres north of Fort St. John, and was estimated to be about 55 square kilometres in size.

Chris Duffy, executive director of B.C.'s emergency management office, says several buildings and garages have been lost to the early fire season.

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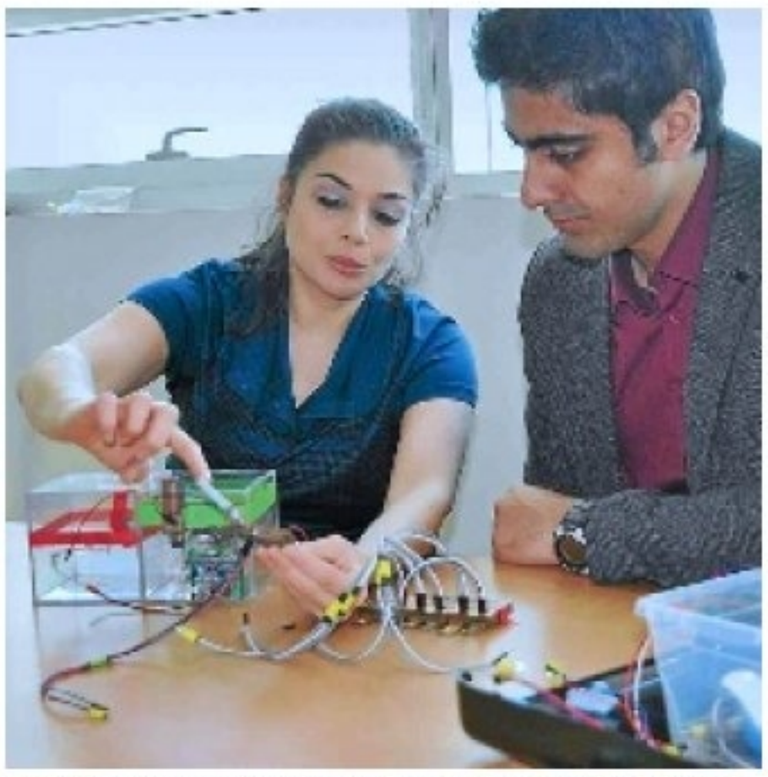

UBC Okanagan engineering professor **Mina Hoorfar, left, and PhD candidate Mohammad Paknahad** have developed a hand-held device that can detect the presence of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in a person's breath. CONTRIBUTED/UBC

Pot 'sniffers' on the way

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Companies are developing ways to detect THC in system

Companies developing breathalyzers to detect marijuana's main psychoactive ingredient in suspected cannabis-impaired drivers appear to be entering a crowded field as Canada prepares to legalize pot.

Health Minister Jane Philpott announced Wednesday at a special United Nations session on drugs that legislation to begin the process of legalizing and regulating pot will be introduced next spring.

A University of British Columbia engineering professor is the latest to create a breathalyzer she says can detect THC levels in the breath of someone who has smoked pot.

Mina Hoorfar said Wednesday that the hand-held device, about the size of two fingers together, can help police detect the chemical in a driver's breath within seconds, unlike blood analysis or spit tests, which are not immediate.

She said the "microfluidic breath analyzer" costs about $15 to manufacture and is bluetooth enabled so people can monitor their own THC levels with a cellphone.

"The sniffer," as she also called it, is superior to competing breathalyzers because it is highly sensitive to pot's major high-inducing component, Hoorfar said.

False positives are a problem with other devices "because any other odour can interfere with THC. With ours we separate all kinds of molecules. There won't be any false positive with ours."

Hoorfar and her colleague, PhD student Mohammad Paknahad, are in the process of applying to a university ethics board for a clinical trial.

Hoorfar said the device can detect THC on someone's breath for about 12 hours but she and Paknahad are trying to push that up to 24 hours with their prototype.

> **Law enforcement has been hungry for it.**
> Kal Malhi

Canadians suspected of driving while impaired by marijuana or other drugs face the same penalties as those who get behind the wheel after consuming alcohol.

Kal Malhi, president of Vancouver-based Cannabix Technologies, said his company has raised millions of dollars to bring its marijuana breathalyzer to market.

He said the legalization of marijuana in Canada means police must have the right tools to get impaired drivers off the road for everyone's safety.

"Law enforcement has been hungry for it," said Malhi, who was a Mountie in the Vancouver area from 2000 to 2009.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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People board the SkyTrain in Vancouver. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

Transit pass a tax rebate for 25% of us

FINANCES

TurboTax data shows city makes good use of system

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

Vancouver is among the most transit-friendly cities in Canada, if people's tax returns are anything to go by.

Online tax filing company TurboTax aggregated the data of Canadians using its software to see how many people are claiming government rebates for buying public transit passes.

According to the data, Vancouver is the second-most transit-friendly city, with 26.8 per cent of people from here claiming their passes on TurboTax.

Toronto is first with 30.9 per cent.

TurboTax spokesperson Robin Taub, a personal finance consultant, says the figure is a good indicator of how well a city's public transportation system fares.

Only unlimited use passes (like monthly or yearly passes) can be written off, so everyone who claims the rebate likely uses public transit as their primary mode of transportation.

She says the number of people claiming transit passes on their tax returns, especially in big urban cities with built up infrastructure, is a sign city dwellers are thinking green.

"I think we're moving in the right direction in terms of having people leave their cars at home," said Taub.

Overall, 11.7 per cent of British Columbians using TurboTax claimed the Public Transit Amount this year. The national average is 10.6 per cent.

The only other B.C. city to crack to Top 15 list of transit-friendly cities was Victoria, which ranked ninth with 10.4 per cent of people claiming their transit passes.

The Top Five is rounded out by Ottawa in third (21.9 per cent), then Edmonton (17.4) and Calgary (16.6).

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The owner of New Coast Realty will have no role in the company's daily operations while it faces investigations by two real estate boards. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

New Coast Realty owner steps aside

REAL ESTATE

Company being investigated for regulation violations

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

The owner of a Vancouver-area brokerage firm is stepping aside from the company's daily operations while it faces investigations for alleged violations of British Columbia's real estate regulations.

In a statement, New Coast Realty said owner Ze Yu Wu is voluntarily cutting ties and will have no role in the company's daily operations until investigations by the Real Estate Council of B.C. and Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver are complete.

The company said operations are now being handled by managing brokers appointed by the real estate council, as well as an independent chief compliance officer who will report to regulators.

New Coast Realty came under fire in February following allegations in a Globe and Mail article that some realtors were exploiting an assignment clause in contracts that allowed them to repeatedly sell properties, driving up prices and inflating commissions.

The real estate council launched an investigation after it was informed by the Globe of a tape recording containing statements of "potentially serious violations" of the act.

In Tuesday's statement, New Coast Realty said the company and its agents deny any allegations of wrongdoing.

The company said it has provided responses and documentation showing they have followed all rules and regulations, and that it is fully cooperating with investigators.

CONDITIONS

The brokerage firm was already under a number of restrictions from regulators, including a condition that a managing broker approved by the council must be appointed to conduct all training sessions and licensee supervision.

The conditions also include that the managing broker must submit monthly reports on any in-house transactions, trust accounts, transactions involving licensees personally, activities of unlicensed assistants and any complaints.

IN BRIEF

Man stabbed while confronting thieves

A homeowner in Surrey has been stabbed after confronting two men who broke into his home. The two suspects, described only as Caucasian, fled in the victim's 2005 white Mini Cooper.

A search is underway for the thieves and the vehicle, which has a black roof and B.C. licence plate BT6 75H.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

Mother charged in 2015 death of daughter

A woman from Victoria, B.C., has been charged with first-degree murder in the death of her 18-month-old daughter.

Victoria police say officers were called to a home early on Sept. 16, 2015, to check on the welfare of the people inside.

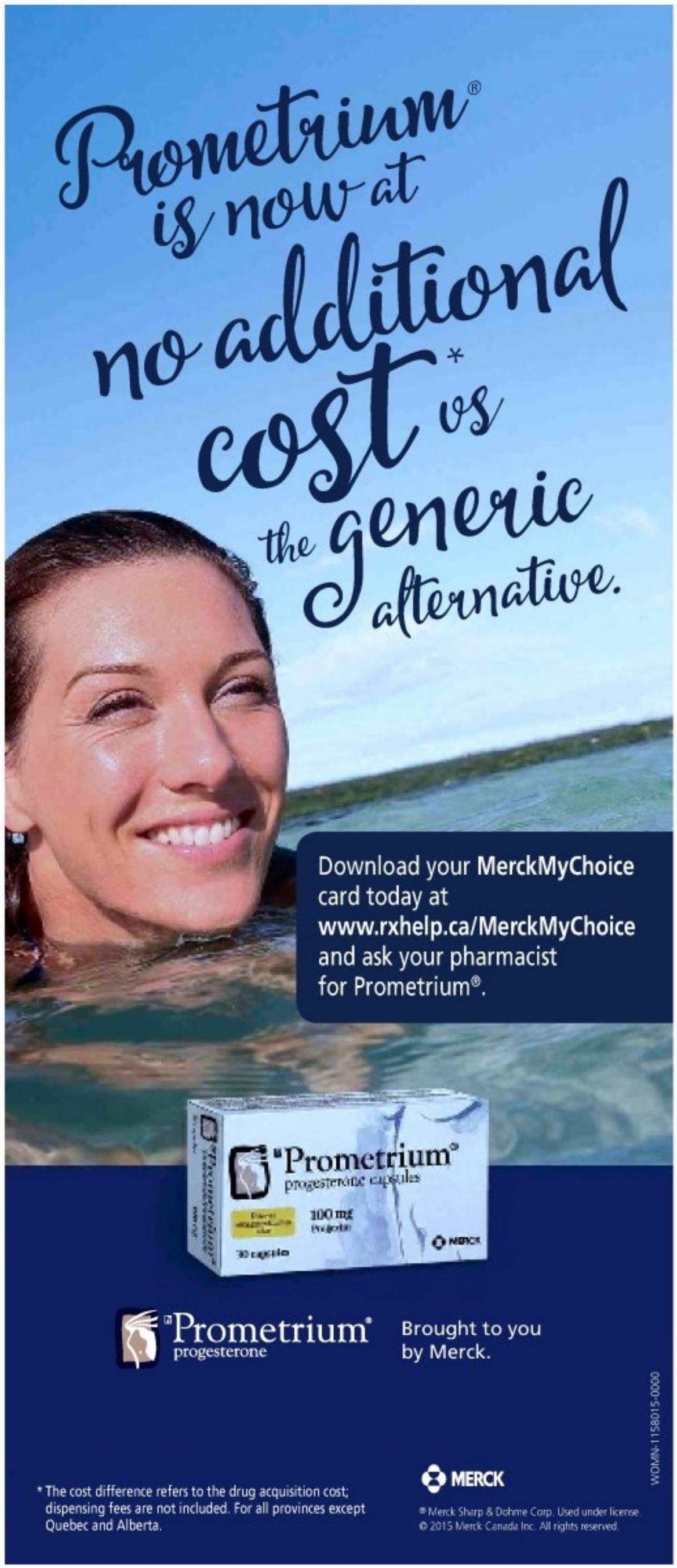
Police say emergency crews found the young girl and tried to resuscitate her, but the toddler died.

The girl's mother was taken to hospital.

Police arrested the mother Tuesday and charged her with first-degree murder.

Police say details of the case, including the mother's identity, cannot be released because of a publication ban.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



‘A case for the history books’

COURT

Mike Duffy faces 31 fraud and breach of trust charges

An Ontario Court justice will announce his decision in the Mike Duffy trial on Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Did Sen. Mike Duffy commit a crime or didn’t he?

That’s the question Ontario Court Justice Charles Vaillancourt will seek to answer Thursday when he passes judgment on the 31 counts of fraud, breach of trust and bribery Duffy has faced since July 2014.

But the much broader implications of the saga of the senator from Prince Edward Island are perhaps best summed up in Duffy’s own words to the Senate in 2013 when he delivered a scathing rebuttal of the allegations swirling around him.

“This,” Duffy thundered, “is a case for the history books.”

It all began in 2012, when the auditor general issued a report that recommended taking steps to ensure members of the upper chamber were submitting enough proof their expense claims were for legitimate parliamentary business.

Questions about Duffy’s own claims — including whether he was a legitimate resident of P.E.I., the province he’d been appointed in 2008 to represent — began later that year. It was the first in a long chain of events that would, among other things, eventually force the departure of Nigel Wright, then the prime minister’s chief of staff.

The bribery charge Duffy faces is the result of Wright’s decision to personally pay the $90,000 in living expenses Duffy claimed by declaring his long-time home in an Ottawa suburb was actually a secondary residence.

The remaining 30 fraud and breach of trust charges relate to Senate money the Crown alleged Duffy either received for trips that had nothing to do with Senate work or that he funnelled through a friend’s company to cover costs the Senate wouldn’t pay for.

Duffy has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

The trial exposed the inner workings of a secretive Prime Minister’s Office and the Conservative party machine, shaped the early narrative of last year’s fateful election campaign and even led to at least one high profile Conservative publicly turning his back on the party.

If his sentence is anything other than a complete discharge — the most serious charge Duffy faces carries a maximum sentence of 14 years in jail — he’d be suspended until his appeals conclude. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Five things to know before the verdict is handed down

Ontario Justice Charles Vaillancourt will deliver his decision Thursday on Sen. Mike Duffy’s fraud, breach of trust and bribery charges, all of which stem from his controversial Senate housing and travel expenses.

1 Duffy faces 31 charges. They fall into five categories: issues related to living expenses Duffy claimed for his suburban Ottawa home; inappropriate expenses relating to personal and partisan activity; inappropriate expense claims assisted with personal attendance and funerals and related ceremonies; disbursements of money; and charges relating to the receipt of a $90,172.24 cheque from Nigel Wright.

2 That he’s a senator is a important element of the alleged crimes. The breach of trust charges Duffy faces are because of his role as a public official and he can be found guilty whether or not the crime would be an offence if committed by a private person.

3 He is facing jail time if convicted. The breach of trust charges carry a maximum penalty of five years in prison. Six of the fraud charges are for amounts over $5,000, which carry a maximum 14-year term. The fraud charges under $5,000 could be met with prisons terms of less than two years. The bribery count has a maximum 14-year sentence.

4 There’s also the matter of his job. Duffy was suspended without pay from the Senate between November 2013 and the dissolution of the last Parliament in August 2015. After dissolution, his pay was reinstated but he remained on a leave of absence with no access to Senate resources because of his ongoing trial. What happens after the verdict is governed by two things: Senate rules and the Constitution.

5 Cases against other senators may hang in the balance. Two other senators are currently waiting to stand trial for their own expenses. Former Liberal senator Mac Harb and former Conservative senator Patrick Brazeau also face fraud and breach of trust charges.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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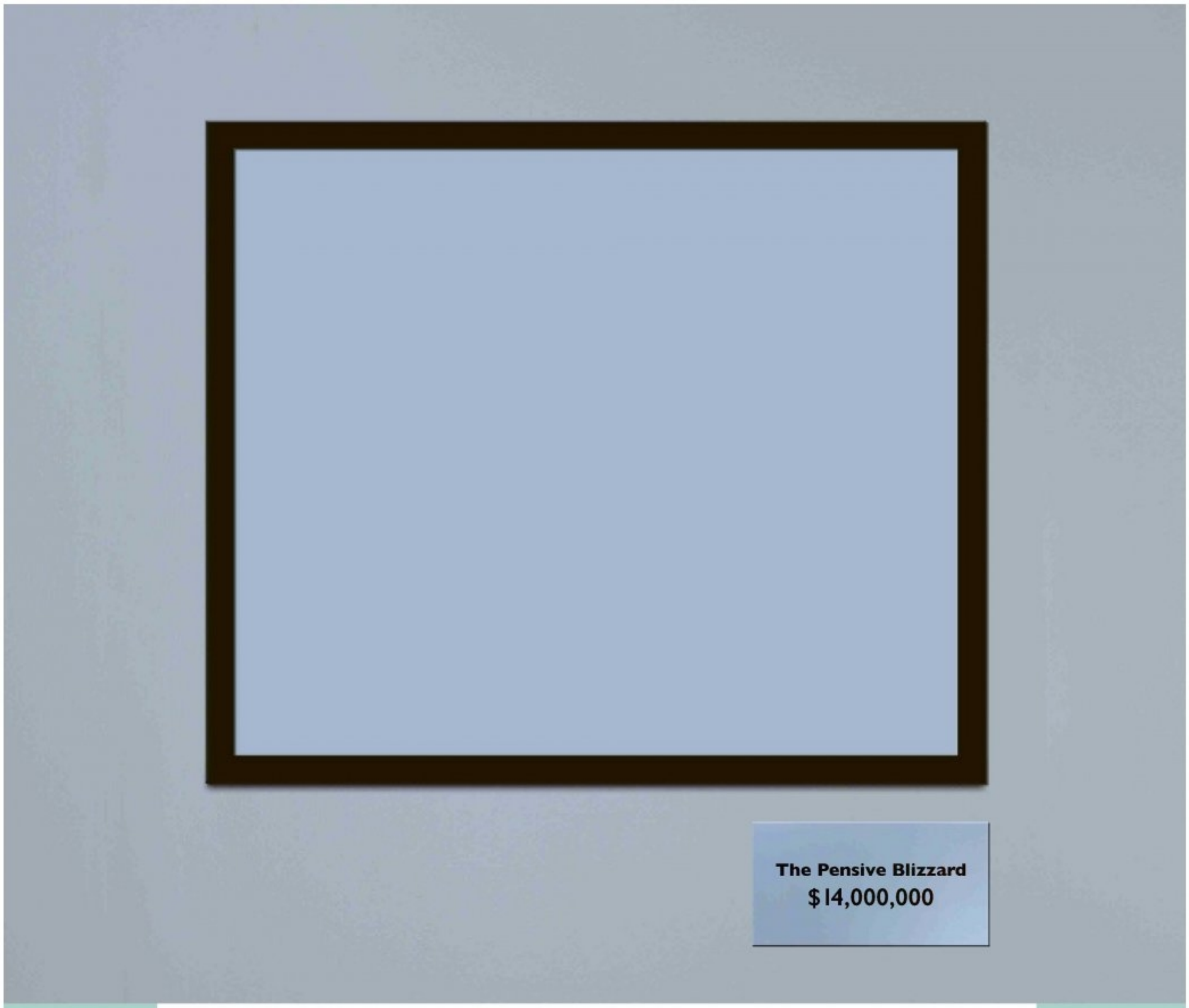

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FASHION

GQ names Trudeau most stylish politician

He's sexy, he's suave and he's prime minister — but is Justin Trudeau the most stylish politician in the world?

GQ seems to think so. The men's magazine editorial board named Trudeau "the most stylish politician alive right now."

"Justin Trudeau's meteoric rise from political young gun to Internet superhero might have something to do with the Canadian's Obama-like levels of chill," the publication wrote.

To be fair, Trudeau doesn't have much in the way of competition. U.S. President Barack Obama's dad jeans, U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron's polo shirts, and Russia's Vladimir Putin's penchant for going shirtless leave much to be desired sartorially. But there is an undeniable je ne sais quoi about Trudeau's sense of style, says Jeff Rustia, founder of Toronto Men's Fashion Week.

"It all goes hand in hand. The watch, the socks, the gear, the cars," he said.

Rustia says Trudeau has become the ambassador for Canadian men's fashion, embracing modern trends like slim-fitting suits, bold colours and athletic wear.

From his striped socks to his tan shoes, Trudeau has shown that he's not afraid of stepping out of the navy-black-charcoal palette typical of politicos.

But it's more than just what he wears, says Michael Nguyen, general manager of Garrison Bespoke, a Toronto-based custom tailor. It's how he wears it.

Having grown up in the spotlight, Trudeau has an easy confidence that makes wearing a suit seem as comfortable as a jogging suit.

"You can't buy (that) with money," Nguyen said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

DNA points to accused as mother of dead babies found in storage locker

DNA evidence suggests a woman accused of hiding the remains of infants in a storage locker she was renting could be their mother. Andrea Giesbrecht, who is 42, was charged with concealment in October 2014 after employees at a Winnipeg U-Haul facility made the discovery.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Homolka must be given chance to be re-enter society: Advocates

Karla Homolka did her time and deserves a chance to start over, say advocates. The fact that Homolka had been living for some time in small-town Quebec suggests the she has reintegrated into society, says Kim Pate, executive director of the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Some scenes of 4/20, the annual day of celebration for cannabis culture lovers, across the country. METRO & THE CANADIAN PRESS

Feds announce plans to legalize marijuana

MARIJUANA

Possibility hangs like a cloud over 4/20 celebrations

On a day when thousands of people were preparing to gather in the sunshine on the lawn of Parliament Hill for the annual celebration of cannabis culture — and smoke a little, too, in plain view of the police — the Liberal government formally announced its plans to legalize and regulate marijuana.

"We know it is impossible to arrest our way out of this problem," Health Minister Jane Philpott said Wednesday in New York during an impassioned speech to the United Nations General Assembly at a special session on global drug policy.

The timing of the announcement on April 20 — or 4/20, as pot activists and connoisseurs call this calendar day — was a coincidence, more than one government source insisted, but still a fitting day to reveal plans to make good on a major campaign promise to legalize, regulate and restrict access to marijuana.

The Liberal government will be launching a task force within the next few weeks to closely examine and evaluate every aspect of their goal to legalize, regulate and restrict access to marijuana, as well as give the government advice on designing the new system.

> Canada will continue to modernize our approach to drug policy. Health Minister Jane Philpott

The draft regulations, which will govern everything from standards for packaging and labeling to exactly how to prevent it from being sold to minors, will be open to comment from Canadians.

Clive Weighill, president of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, said he hopes his organization will be invited to sit on the task force in order to be involved on designing the new policy.

The current period, however, leaves the police in a bit of a "grey zone" as police know marijuana will be legalized eventually but they also need to enforce the law as it stands now.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MANITOBA

Election result is a classic case of 'throw the bums out'

On Tuesday in Manitoba, Greg Selinger's New Democratic Party government was soundly thrashed. The NDP went into the election with a solid majority of seats in the 57-person provincial legislature. It emerged with 14.

The winners were Brian Pallister's Progressive Conservatives, who captured 40 seats and 53 per cent of the popular vote.

It would be tempting to see the Manitoba results as part of a nationwide repudiation of the NDP. The party has already lost the government in Nova Scotia. It blew its chances to become the government of British Columbia. It is stuck in third place in Ontario. It was trounced by Justin Trudeau's Liberals in last fall's federal election.

The only NDP government left in the land is Alberta's.

It would also be tempting to see Tuesday's results as the beginning of a conservative resurgence.

Brad Wall's right-of-centre party won the Saskatchewan election handily this month. Now Pallister's PCs have captured the province next door. Does this signify a trend?

In fact, it may only signify the fact that Manitobans wanted to turf a party that, after 16 years in power, had worn out its welcome.

Issues, such as they were, appeared to play a minor role. The Manitoba NDP is hardly communist. Under former premier Gary Doer, the party succeeded by being cautiously centrist — balancing its budgets and working with business.

When Doer left provincial politics in 2009, then prime minister Stephen Harper named him ambassador to Washington.

Selinger, who had acted as Doer's finance minister, was supposed to follow in the mold of Doer. And, as St. Paul's College political scientist Christopher Adams writes in the Winnipeg Free Press, he tried.

But the economic recession that hit the world in 2009 made it harder to balance budgets.

And then in 2013, Selinger's NDP government broke an election promise and raised the provincial sales tax by one percentage point.

The voters were furious.

It did not matter that Selinger wanted to use the extra money to build needed infrastructure. Nor did it matter that other premiers, such as Ontario's Dalton McGuinty, had managed to break similar promises without suffering any political consequences.

This was Manitoba. The premier had broken his word. The voters were unforgiving.

It didn't help Selinger that he faced a cabinet revolt in 2014 that forced him to step down as party leader and run again for his old job.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Greg Selinger after Tuesday's rout at the hands of the PCs.

MIKE SUDOMA/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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1 Queen Elizabeth II with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren in the Green Drawing room at Windsor Castle in Windsor. **2** The U.K.'s Prince Charles, Queen Elizabeth II, the young Prince George, and Prince William, smiling during a photo shoot for the Royal Mail in 2015 in Buckingham Palace. **A stamp sheet, made from the photograph, was released to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. 3 The Queen poses on the steps of the east terrace** with four of her dogs in the garden of Windsor Castle. HANDOUT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

The Queen through the years

ROYAL FAMILY

As Elizabeth II turns 90, here is a look at highs, lows of her reign

Queen Elizabeth II marks her 90th birthday on Thursday as Britons and many throughout the world celebrate her long and dignified reign. She will celebrate again in June with national events to mark her official birthday.

Here are answers to some questions about the queen's extraordinary life and times:

WHEN DID SHE BECOME QUEEN?

Elizabeth's life was changed forever in 1936 when her uncle, King Edward VIII, abdicated so he could marry his divorced lover Wallis Simpson. This made her father the king and Elizabeth heir to the throne. King George VI's health failed, however, and he was too ill for a planned tour of the Commonwealth in 1952, so he sent Elizabeth and her husband, Prince Philip, in his place.

They were staying in a remote part of Kenya on Feb. 6, 1952, when she was told that the king had died. She automatically became queen upon her father's death, although the official coronation did not take place for more than a year.

HOW DID ELIZABETH WEATHER WORLD WAR II?

Elizabeth was a young princess during World War II, and her father King George VI was concerned for her safety as London came under the repeated German bombing raids known as The Blitz. She and her sister Princess Margaret were moved to Windsor Castle, 40 kilometres west of London for security reasons. She later persuaded her parents to let her serve in the Auxiliary Transport Service, where she learned how to drive and repair ambulances and trucks as part of the war effort. She was assigned number 230873 while in the service.

HAS THE QUEEN EVER COMPLAINED IN PUBLIC?

No, that's just not done. The closest Elizabeth has come to exhibiting human frailty to her subjects was in 1992, when she made a rare admission that her life, so picture perfect on the outside, was marred by the marital woes of three of her four children. She didn't complain in English, however, looking to Latin to proclaim it had been something of an "annus horribilis" — a horrible year that included a disastrous fire at her beloved Windsor Castle.

WHAT WAS THE LOW POINT OF HER MONARCHY?

This would undoubtedly be the stormy days that followed Princess Diana's sudden death in a car crash in August 1997. The princess was tremendously popular, and many held the royal family responsible for her unpleasant divorce from Prince Charles. The queen was castigated in the press for not returning to London immediately after Diana's death and for not flying the royal standard atop the palace at half-staff as a sign of respect.

DOES THE QUEEN PLAN TO RETIRE?

The strong-willed queen has given no indication she plans to leave the throne, and has described her unique position as a "job for life." Her own mother lived to be 101, and was generally in fine fettle in her final years. Still, it is possible Elizabeth would step down if she developed severe problems that made it impossible for her to carry out her role.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. ELECTION

Clinton close to nomination, Trump strengthens hand

Hillary Clinton, the nearly unstoppable Democrat, and Republican front-runner Donald Trump accelerated Wednesday toward upcoming primaries on an increasingly direct path to presidential nominations after trouncing party challengers in New York.

Clinton, now 81 per cent of the way toward clinching the Democratic nomination that eluded her eight years ago, can lose every remaining contest and still prevail. Her sweeping victory in the New York primary called into question the durability of Bernie Sanders' rival campaign and left him with severely limited options for overtaking her.

Hillary Clinton is now 81 per cent of the way towards clinching the Democratic nomination. Donald Trump, however, is still not in the clear for the Republican nomination. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

While Trump strengthened his hand, he is still not in the clear.

Trump is focused heavily on clinching the Republican nomination through voters' balloting in state primaries, thus avoiding a contested national convention in Cleveland in July. The businessman's win in his home state keeps him on a path to securing the 1,237 delegates he needs, though he'll have to perform well in the round of primaries in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Delaware on Tuesday and in California's huge contest on June 7.

His chief rival, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, has no mathematical path to getting the nomination through primary voting. But he sees a window to snatch the nomination from Trump at the convention, and his campaign is working feverishly to line up delegates who would support him if Trump fails to prevail on a first ballot.

The side-by-side Republican efforts at this late stage — with Trump amassing primary victories while Cruz digs for the support of delegates who could settle the nomination — are unprecedented in recent presidential campaigns and add to the deeply uncertain nature of the race.

Clinton's win in New York, a state she represented in the Senate for eight years, halted Sanders' recent string of victories and put her in a stronger position heading into the next contests. She could lose them all and still win the nomination — if she did well enough to win some delegates. Sen. Sanders' advisers offered no signs of giving up before the Democrats' Philadelphia convention.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEDITERRANEAN

Hundreds feared dead in shipwreck

Up to 500 people are feared dead after a shipwreck in the Mediterranean Sea last week, the UN refugee agency said Wednesday, citing the accounts of survivors.

The disaster happened in waters between Italy and Libya, based on accounts from 41 survivors who were rescued on April 16 by a merchant ship, UNHCR said. The agency said that if confirmed, it would be one of the deadliest tragedies on the Mediterranean in the last year.

The survivors said they had been among 100 to 200 people who left a town near Tobruk, Libya, on a smugglers' boat last week. The agency said Wednesday that "after sailing for several hours, the smugglers in charge of the boat attempted to transfer the passengers to a larger ship carrying hundreds of people in terribly overcrowded conditions."

"At one point during the transfer, the larger boat capsized and sank," UNHCR said in a statement, saying that its staff had visited the survivors at a local stadium in Kalamata, Greece, where they have been housed by authorities while they undergo "police procedures."

Barbara Molinario, a Rome-based spokeswoman for UNHCR, said details remained unclear.

The statements offered the most official comment yet following repeated news reports about the incident in recent days.

Somalia's president, prime minister and parliamentary speaker on Monday issued a joint statement over an unconfirmed report about the incident. Reports of the drownings circulated among families and on social media, but they hadn't been confirmed by coast guard authorities.

More than 1 million migrants and refugees crossed the Mediterranean last year— mostly refugees from war in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria fleeing to Greece, and the European Union, via Turkey. However, the longer Libya-Italy route has traditionally seen more deaths. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EU IN CRISIS

Facing internal divisions, the EU has struggled to cope with the influx, and UNHCR on Wednesday reiterated its longstanding call for more "regular pathways" to Europe, such as with resettlement and humanitarian admission, family reunification, private sponsorship and student and work visas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Car industry drives into trouble

Mitsubishi Motors Corp. is not the first major automaker to run afoul of regulators. In fact, its admission that employees had intentionally falsified fuel mileage data for several vehicle models adds its name to a growing list of auto industry names whose brand has been tarnished.

TAKATA CORP.

The issue: Airbags made by the Japanese parts supplier for Honda and 13 other global automakers are at risk of exploding when deployed, sending bits of metal shrapnel into drivers and passengers.

Nine fatalities and more than 100 injuries have been linked to the faulty airbags. That's out of 1.2 million airbag deployments over the same period. Affected vehicles are from model years 2002 to 2015.

The fallout: The auto industry's biggest-ever recall has spread to at least 25 million vehicles, including 1.2 million in Canada. For most Canadians, replacement parts won't be available until this fall. Takata said it's still investigating the cause of the malfunction.

VOLKSWAGEN GROUP

The issue: The German automaker admitted in September 2015 that it had deliberately cheated emissions tests by programming pollution controls to turn on only under test conditions.

Under normal driving conditions, the vehicles were emitting 10 to 40 times the legal pollution limits, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimated.

The fallout: The device was installed on 11 million cars worldwide, including some Audis and Porsches, for the model years 2009 to 2016. The company is working on a fix. Meanwhile, no additional models can be sold.

GENERAL MOTORS

The issue: A faulty ignition switch in its small cars spontaneously shut off, cutting power to the steering wheel and airbags. The scandal was compounded because it took the company nearly a decade to disclose the problem.

The fallout: In 2014, GM recalled 2.6 million vehicles because of faulty ignition switches that were implicated in 124 deaths and 275 injuries, including some in Canada.

TOYOTA

The issue: Faulty gas pedals would suddenly accelerate out of control. The effect of the recall was immense to an auto company that had been noted for its high-quality products.

The fallout: The firm initially blamed floor mats. But in 2011, after 12 deaths were linked to the problem, Toyota recalled 10 million cars and redesigned the accelerator.

HYUNDAI/KIA

The issue: The automakers were accused by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2012 of overstating their fuel efficiency claims.

The fallout: Hyundai and Kia voluntarily lowered their fuel efficiency claims, prompting lawsuits from affected customers. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MALM DRESSE

Ikea reissues safety warning

Colin McNeil
Metro | Toronto

Ikea is again reminding customers of the importance of wall anchoring their assemble-it-yourself furniture after a U.S. toddler's death. The reissued safety warning comes after a Malm dresser toppled over and killed 22-month-old Minnesota boy. The boy managed to tip the chest over onto himself.

Ikea says the chest was not properly anchored to the wall.

Ikea issued the warning for the first time last summer, after two young children died in separate incidents when Malm dressers fell on them.

Lawyers for the family of one of the children, a two-year-old boy from Pennsylvania, have launched a website calling for Ikea to issue a recall.

CITY OF VANCOUVER vancouver.ca

Northeast False Creek Stewardship Group and Park Design Advisory Group

Submit Your Application

The City of Vancouver and Vancouver Park Board are planning the future of Northeast False Creek and you could be part of it. We're looking for committee members for a Stewardship Group and a Park Design Advisory Group to help us create a vibrant, sustainable new neighbourhood for everyone in the city.

Committee members are selected through the City of Vancouver's and Vancouver Park Board's public selection process, and will be chosen to provide advice and insight.

Submit your application online at: vancouver.ca/NEFC-committees

Applications are due Friday, May 20, 2016 by 4 pm.

About the Stewardship Group

The Northeast False Creek Stewardship Group will bring a broad variety of perspectives to the planning process and advise City staff in securing and maintaining the vision set out in the Northeast False Creek Conceptual Plan and approved in the Removal of Viaducts Report (2015) for a new neighbourhood and major waterfront park.

The committee will have up to 15 appointed community members.

About the Park Design Advisory Group

The Northeast False Creek Park Design Advisory Group will provide input on the design of the new park and open spaces in NEFC. The group will help to ensure a balanced approach to park uses, as part of a thoughtful and comprehensive design process; provide feedback to the project team (Park Board staff, City staff and consultant team) on the approach and progress of community engagement; and encourage public education and contribution in the design of the park and open spaces.

The committee will have 10 to 12 appointed community members.

Visit vancouver.ca/NEFC-committees for details and terms of the application process.

The City of Vancouver reserves the right to suspend or terminate its call for applications at any time without further explanation or notification; however, if the process is suspended or terminated the City will attempt to notify all applicants directly and will issue a public update. The City assumes no legal duty or obligation to any applicant and does not owe any duty of care, fairness or impartiality in the selection process. The City may accept or reject any or all applications without providing reasons. Subject to the applicable provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (British Columbia) and other applicable legal requirements, the City will treat the information provided by each applicant in confidence. Each applicant consents to the City contacting any references named by the applicant.

metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, April 21, 2016

CHANTAL HÉBERT ON CHANGING VOTER DEMOGRAPHICS

The Liberals were the main beneficiaries of a higher level of youth engagement in the electoral process last fall but that does not mean they can take that support for granted.

But for young millennial voters Justin Trudeau might not have won a majority victory last fall.

As an Abacus Data study confirmed this week, the younger cohort of the electorate tilted the balance in favour of the Liberals. By turning out in greater numbers and coalescing behind Trudeau, voters aged 18-25 almost certainly made a difference between a minority and a majority.

Early indications suggest the Liberals were the preferred choice of a plurality of younger voters (45 per cent) beating the NDP (25 per cent) and the Conservatives (20 per cent). In comparison to 2011, turnout among that age group went up 12 percentage points.

Before dismissing the growth of the youth vote and its impact on the election outcome as a one off — essentially due to Trudeau's status as a political rock star — it might be prudent to consider that the reverse could turn out to be true.

In politics, empowerment and engagement tend to come as a pair. The sense that one's vote can make a difference is one of the main incentives to continue exercising one's franchise. On that score, the experience was positive for many of those who voted for the first time in 2015.

In the big picture, no federal party can afford to ignore the changing demographics of the electorate.

Trudeau's edge with young voters could be blunted by leadership changes of other parties.

As the Abacus report points out, by the next election all millennials (born approximately between 1980 and 2000) will have a vote. Their generation will make up the electorate's largest cohort.

The Liberals were the main beneficiaries of a higher level of youth engagement in the electoral process last fall but that does not mean they can take that support for granted.

Come 2019, Trudeau's edge with young voters could be blunted by the upcoming leadership changes at the helm of the other parties. Over the course of his first mandate, Trudeau also stands to lose some of the patina that allowed him to cast himself as the greatest agent of change last fall. It is often easier to like an underdog than an incumbent.

Many New Democrats came out of the 2015 campaign feeling they had been outflanked on the front of generational change. That widespread sense contributed to Thomas Mulcair's demise at the hands of party members earlier this month.

But before the NDP concludes that a younger leader could act as a magic bullet for what ails it, it might consider that under Jack Layton, in 2011, the NDP was the preferred choice of the younger cohort. Mulcair's failure to keep that connection is alive had more to do with the larger failure of the NDP campaign to connect with the electorate at large than with the age of the leader.

More so than any of its predecessors, the millennial generation was raised in a culturally diverse Canada. That theme happens to be a constant in Trudeau's political discourse and it is reflected in his caucus. Looking at the delegates at the NDP convention in Edmonton, one had to look hard for evidence of the country's cultural diversity.

Even before the last election polls showed that if younger voters were left to decide who should run Canada, the Conservatives would come dead last — behind the Green Party. Under Stephen Harper the party worked hard at hanging on to that last place.

The dismissive Conservative discourse on climate change; the reluctant acceptance of marriage rights for same-sex couples; the over-the-top fear campaign over the legalization of marijuana all seemed designed to drive millennials away. The party's reductive depiction of Trudeau's leadership might as well have been calculated to come across as a generational putdown.

Like their elders, younger Canadians believe bread-and-butter issues like jobs should sit at the top of the to-do list of the federal government. But also like a majority of their elders, they crave aspirational politics and believe in the virtues of government activism.

Those are generational traits that a decade of Conservative counter-spin probably exacerbated rather than diminished. On that basis, Trudeau should share the credit for the higher youth engagement that had such defining impact on the last election with Harper.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

THE MICROTREND: Men faking orgasms

Remember when Seinfeld's Kramer admitted to being an orgasm faker? Ha! Where do they come up with this stuff, right? Well ... Researchers at Université du Québec à Montréal recently asked 230 men aged 18-29 whether they had ever faked an orgasm. On average, the respondents reported having faked it in 25 per cent of encounters. Reasons given: Because they were drunk, because they wanted to impress partners, because, as the K-man himself once put it, "It's enough already and I just want to get some sleep." (Sounds like what women might say.) And to what, pray tell, do the researchers ascribe this phenomenon? The patriarchy, of all things. In brief: Men expect themselves to have orgasms at will, and, by dint of their "prowess," to be able to induce them. Hence a vicious cycle of gender-role-reinforcing subterfuge we weren't even fully aware of. SOURCE: COSMOPOLITAN

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

Not leaning in? You just haven't gone to the right conference yet

Ladies!!!!

Don't miss your chance to attend The Millennial Women's Empowerment TED-Like Talk Series on Ideas and Futurismia for the Next Generation of Leaders of the World!

As global forces slosh and bend and collide and explode and agitate and regurgitate, they IMPACT YOU, both in very large ways — too large to even understand without acronyms — and very small ways, like bees.

How can YOU be a catalyst for exponential change? How can YOU evolve and advance and capitalize on new technologies too wild to even dream of yet because they won't even be invented in your lifetime?

And how can you achieve all that in stilettos while maintaining an equilibrializing daily mindfullness regime that replenishes your mind-body energy for optimal health and shiny hair?

We'll tell you how when you join us at the premier event for dynamic, glowing and creative women like you who have access to just $450 (plus taxes) and a business-casual wardrobe (blazers!).

We know, it's scary out there in our VUCAS (volatile, uncertain, complex, ambiguous, syrupy) world. That's why we designed this conference! After our three-day schedule of connected, inspirational and disruptive workshops, lectures and seminars, our high-octane nutritional lunches made only from plants with no feelings and superfood seeds, and our Coachella-and-spin-gym themed networking parties with power-crystal door prizes, you'll learn how to reclaim the essence of your bitch-boss awesomeness.

We offer innovative ways to boost your empowermentalizing personal-branding strategy while staying rooted in the deep roots of mother earth, mother nature and motherhood, even though you're on birth control.

Perfect your productivity, build consciousness-raising relationships of infinite potentiality, absorb by osmosis the wisdom of wealthier Millennial women who lean-in in designer duds! Power up your self-confidence all while wirelessly powering up your iPhone! (Shout out to InvisibleCharge-Orb™, our awesome sponsor!)

The Millennial Women's Empowerment TED-Like Talk Series on Ideas and Futurismia for the Next Generation of Leaders of the World! is so good, it's like sustainable fair-trade Botox for your life.

Plus, this year's keynote speaker is none other than Gwyneth Paltrow's personal juicing assistant, so 'nuff said ;)

Register today on Instagram via #dreambiglivebigbebigthebiggestbiggness! Early birds get a free sexist-barrier-busting daily mantra. And remember: If you can visualize it, you can visualize it!

See you soon! Xoxo the TMWETLTSIFNGLW team!

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Cathrin Bradbury

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, REGIONAL SALES
Steve Shrout

MANAGING EDITOR VANCOUVER
Jeff Hodson

ADVERTISER INQUIRIES
adinfovancouver@metronews.ca
General phone 604-602-1002

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metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

People mag names Jennifer Aniston, 47, the World's Most Beautiful Woman

Bif bares her soul

MUSIC

Punk great launches tour for memoir and acoustic sound

Elisha Dacey
Metro | Winnipeg

One would expect a memoir by Canada's queen of punk to be more about heavy days of partying than facing breast cancer or embracing yoga.

But Bif Naked defies the stereotypes in her new memoir, I, Bificus, launched across the country Tuesday.

"I was encouraged for a long time by my manager Peter, who's been my manager for 25 years," says Bif, speaking to Metro from her home in Vancouver.

"I think after breast cancer, I had a heart surgery in 2012, just with my divorce (she married Vancouver sports writer Ian Walker), the stories kept coming up over the years.

"There's part of me that didn't want to write a book because I felt it was so, you know, the classic book of secrets. It was just so common, all these musicians were writing books. It was like everyone was aging out, so these books came to be."

The memoir takes the reader on Bif's journey from being adopted by American Missionaries from her teenage New Delhi parents, through her time in Winnipeg, her marriage and divorce, and delves into things like her bisexuality and her parents' influence.

"I interviewed my parents. I really wanted to include them in the book and I wanted their life's work they were doing in the '60s and their missionary work. They're a huge influence."

Out of the book a tour has been born, one that features both her latest acoustic songs and excerpts from the book. "It's more like a play," she said. "The tour is called Songs and Stories, we'll be reading from the book and then playing some songs, some audience stuff."

That audience participation is why she chose smaller venues for the tour. "It just seems to work better. I like to have the audience participate a little bit," even though it can get cheeky, said Bif, noting she once had a guy moon his boss on stage.

A part-time motivational speaker, Bif said speaking to a crowd is much different from doing a reading.

"Reading, instead of speaking, is a lot — you know, I had to get glasses. I had to get glasses! F—! What am I going to do? So that's funny, I don't know how that's going to work."

IN PERSON

The songs and stories tour dates:

- May 12 at the Venue in Vancouver
- May 13 at the Marquee in Calgary
- May 14 at The Needle in Edmonton
- May 16 at The Park Theatre in Winnipeg
- May 17 at Adelaide Hall in Toronto.

METRO

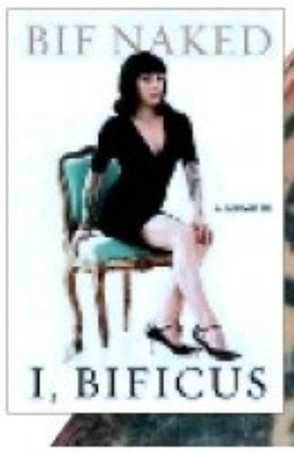


PHOTO BY KAROLINA TUREK

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Unbelievable insults from a young woman

THE SHOW: Doctor Foster, Season 1, Episode 5 (Lifetime/Netflix)
THE MOMENT: The Bitch Slap

Dr. Gemma Foster (Suranne Jones), who's 37, and her husband Simon (Bertie Carvel), who's 40, are having dinner at their neighbours, the Parks. The Parks don't know that their 23-year-old daughter Kate (Jodie Comer) is sleeping with Simon. They're about to find out.

Calmly, eating all the while, Gemma drops bomb after bomb about Kate (who's seated beside her), and about Simon's business deal with Parks. "You're a bitch," Kate says.

"Bitch is right," Gemma replies. "And I'm a wolf tonight."

Kate stands to leave. Suddenly, she smacks Gemma on the back of the head. "You ancient f—king cow!" Kate cries.

If this show were a book, this is the moment I'd have thrown it across the room. A few episodes ago, I'd been intrigued. I love Jones (Scott & Bailey), and to watch her think her way through an emotional thriller? Sign me up.

But soon alarm bells were sounding. Every woman here is treacherous; they're jealous of Gemma, or think she's a snob, or both. And this is the level of insight into why Simon cheated: "All men want to."

It was the word "ancient" that did me in, though. It wasn't the first time Kate called Gemma old, but it was the most ridiculous. I don't buy that a 23-year-old who's sleeping with a 40-year-old would call a 37-year-old — who looks like Jones — a hag.

If you're going to turn a domestic drama into The Real Housewives of Small-Town England, you've got to give me something better than that.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

Every woman seems jealous of Dr. Gemma Foster, left.
CONTRIBUTED

Meet the Cali girl who talks back

AUTHOR INTERVIEW

Teen character in YA novel defends her queer family

Melita Kuburas
Metro | Canada

Anti-gay laws in North Carolina and Mississippi are all over the news on the day Mariko Tamaki and I speak in early April. Bruce Springsteen cancelled his show in Greensboro, North Carolina, scheduled for the previous night, and his stand "against prejudice and bigotry" is all over Facebook.

As legislation in these Republican-controlled Southern states encroaches on the rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals in the U.S., stories of people being denied marriage licences and using the bathroom of their choice are becoming more common.

Tamaki tackles the subject of religion and sexuality in her new young adult book, Saving Montgomery Sole. The Canadian author says she sometimes can't even look at her news feed because of the flood of articles about people within the LGBT community being denied their rights.

"It's something that I really struggled with — this movement by a religious right to discriminate against and to curtail the rights of a group of people. I find it really hard to deal with. So I try to tap into that a little bit in this book," says Tamaki, who now lives in California.

Tamaki wanted to create a character who talks back — someone who is "intensely vocal" about discrimination.

Her valiant heroine is Montgomery Sole, a high school student with a curiosity for retro experiments like backmasking, and ordering magic stones with special powers over the internet for her Mystery Club.

Montgomery's style of oversize, stained clothing (hand-me-downs from one of her moms) and insatiable appetite for pizza make her an outsider in Aunty, California, where everyone is obsessed with carb-free froyo. But the bullying escalates whenever the focus turns to her family — her lesbian moms and the fact that Montgomery and her younger sister, Tesla, were conceived from a sperm donor.

At Tesla's soccer game, when the moms go in for a smooch, a snotty teen sitting in the bleachers described as High Bun grouses: "Let's get out of here before they like, rape us." Monty is within earshot.

But it isn't until a religious preacher known on YouTube for his "The Reverend White vs. Gay Wedding" video moves into town that things escalate for Monty.

As the reverend tries to impose his "save the American family" message on others, the consequences reverberate through the school.

But Montgomery becomes even more frustrated when her own sister wants to start praying, going to church and mounts a cross on her bedroom door.

Tamaki wanted to present two different perspectives on religion in the book.

"Christianity is about community and love and forgiveness, but it's also got this other layer to it. I wanted to try to blur all those things and also to explore conflict within a family where you have a situation like discrimination and how various people experience it and deal with it," she says.

PREVIOUS WORK

Mariko Tamaki's last book, This One Summer, was in February pulled from school libraries in Florida for sexual content. Though the coming-of-age graphic novel was never meant for kids, it was awarded the Caldecott Honor, a prize for the 'most distinguished American picture book for children,' which may have caused confusion, the author says

Tamaki happened to be in Florida at the time — amused by the dramatic TV news stories, she says she contemplated going to the districts herself.

What would she have done in response? "I don't know, probably eaten an ice cream on the steps or something," she jokes.

Saving Montgomery Sole by Mariko Tamaki is out now.

THE MEDDLER follows Marnie Minervini (Susan Sarandon), recent widow and eternal optimist, as she moves from New Jersey to Los Angeles to be closer to her daughter (Rose Byrne). Armed with an iPhone and a full bank account, Marnie sets out to make friends, find her purpose, and possibly open up to someone new.

Visit wonderlist.ca today to enter for your chance to win 1 of 120 double passes to an advance screening of The Meddler.

No purchase necessary. Skill test question required. Contest open to Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba and Nova Scotia residents | 18 years of age or older. Odds of winning dependent on the number of eligible entries received. One hundred and twenty (120) prizes are available to be won consisting of a double pass to an advance screening of The Meddler. ARV $25.00 CDN. Contest opens April 15, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. EST and closes April 22, 2016 at 11:59 p.m. EST. To enter and for complete contest rules, please visit wonderlist.ca.

BOOK REVIEWS

'Local stranger' in a strange land

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

Sara Baume was in her twenties, living in an apartment above a hair salon in a coastal Irish village, when the rescue dog first came into her life. She was feeling like an outsider and struggling with her career as a sculptor.

The dog had lost an eye in a badger-baiting fight — a vicious, illegal blood sport in which canines are pitted to the death against the feisty weasel-like mammals. Usually, injured animals are euthanized but for some unknown reason this dog survived, and found his way into a local shelter.

"I wanted to feel like I had done something good; that I could look after something, that something could rely on me," says Baume. "So I got the most lost-cause dog I could find. No one wanted him. I wanted to feel like I'd rescued something that no one else wanted."

Baume's relationship with her dog became the inspiration for her debut novel, Spill Simmer Falter Wither, published in North America by HMH Books.

It's the heartbreaking but beautifully told story of a fifty-something-year-old man, who despite the fact that he grew up and has never left his small Irish town, is openly shunned and treated with suspicion by the community.

Still living in his childhood home, he is haunted by the memory of his abusive father and unable to emotionally connect with, let alone talk to, other humans.

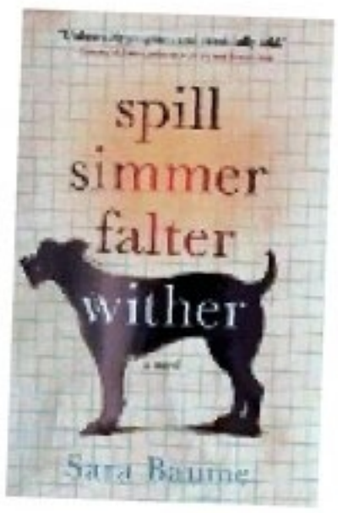
He impulsively decides to adopt a mangy, one-eyed dog, but when the animal is accused of biting a child, the man panics and the two make their escape.

"This is a guy who feels lonely because he feels watched in a way. He knows that everyone knows who he is, and can't put a foot wrong for something as simple as his dog biting someone without feeling demonized by the locals who have always been suspicious because he's not really one of them," says Baume, who believes that the character came out of her own feelings of being treated like a "local stranger."

The seaside village Baume captured in the book is modelled after the one in which she was residing, after a decade of living in Dublin. "When the tide went out it was just mudflats and there was a power station on one side and an oil refinery on the other," she says.

"It was a strange, strange little town."

Despite its lack of beauty, Baume pulled details from the local landscape into the novel; observations she made while taking her dog out over the changing seasons.



Although Spill Simmer Falter Wither quickly established Baume as a novelist to watch — she won the 2015 Rooney Prize for Irish Literature given to emerging writers under the age of 40 — she still considers her writing as part of her broader artistic practice.

"In many ways I'm doing what I did as a sculptor," she says, "using the materials of everyday life, found objects and images, and piecing them together."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

metro HOME
Your essential daily news

Gardeners can help protect butterfly populations by planting milkweed plants

MEET THE CONDO

City living close to nature

Project overview

Shovels broke ground just last month at the site of Milano, a concrete high-rise being built in Burnaby by award-winning Solterra. Standard residences are nearly sold out, but there are still lots of private collection homes, starting in the high $600,000s.

Location and transit

Going car-free wouldn't be difficult for Milano residents. Located off the SkyTrain route, it's easy to get to other parts of Metro Vancouver. Simon Fraser University is a short commute by bus. The Trans-Canada Highway, meanwhile, is a great option for those weekend trips to Whistler.

Housing amenities

Communal amenities include a steam room, a fitness room, indoor hot tub and a resident's lounge. Up top, Milano residents can take advantage of the 20,000 square foot landscaped terrace, fully equipped with a fire pit, a barbecue and a movie area. Peace of mind is offered with secured garage and lobby entrances.

In the neighbourhood

Milano residents will be central to everything, including ample golf courses. Whether it's grabbing a coffee or picking up a prescription, there's the nearby Madison Centre or Brentwood Town Centre. Burnaby Lake Park and Deer Lake Park are also in close proximity for those wanting to get away from the noisy city and into nature.

NEED TO KNOW

What: Milano
Builder: Solterra Development (Milano) Corp.
Designer: In-house
Location: Brentwood, Burnaby
Building: Concrete high-rise
Sizes: From 460 square feet to 1,925 sq. ft.
Pricing: Standard homes remain priced from the mid-$500,000s
Model: One-bedroom, two-bedroom or three-bedroom options
Status: Under construction
Occupancy: Ready for Fall 2018
Sales centre: 4247 Lougheed Highway
Phone: 604-294-8989
Website: milanoliving.ca

CONTRIBUTED

CRAFTS

DIY lace doilies that can do more than just protect surfaces

Stuck with grandma's old lace doilies? Turn them into fashionable bowls you can use. Breathe new life into that stash of crocheted doilies you inherited or pick some up from a thrift shop. They are easily transformed into sturdy bowls to stash all sorts of odds and ends.

Step 1: Gather and shop for the supplies:
We used a fabric stiffener readily available at craft stores, but you can also look online for recipes made using sugar water or corn starch or potato starch as stiffeners. Choose bowls that are slightly larger than the doily. Try experimenting with different sized bowls and doilies. You will need:

- Lace doilies, any size with a white background
- Bowls
- Fabric stiffener (we used Mod Podge Stiffy)
- Plastic wrap
- Plastic container for fabric stiffener

Step 2: Prepare and protect the bowls by wrapping them in plastic.

Doilies easily turn into sturdy bowls. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Turn the bowl upside down and wrap the outside of the bowl in a layer of plastic wrap to prevent the fabric stiffener from sticking to it and making a mess. Ensure that the plastic wrap is wrapped snugly around the bowl.

Step 3: Soak the doily in the fabric stiffener mixture until saturated.
Pour the fabric stiffener product into a plastic container. Submerge the doily in the stiffener, soaking it completely. Squeeze out excess liquid.

Step 4: Place the doily over the bowl and let dry.
Drape the soaked doily over the bowl. Be sure to centre the doily on the bowl and use your fingers to smooth and press the doily so it is as flat and smooth as possible. This will ensure the doily will have a flat bottom so it sits flat on a table. Let the doily dry on the bowl for approximately 24 hours or until the doily is completely dry.

Step 5: Remove the doily from the mould.
Once the doily is completely dry, gently loosen the doily from the plastic wrapped bowl.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Knowing your furniture footprint

SIZE MATTERS

Choose the right sofa or dining-room table best suited for your home

Tanya Enberg

Eva Healy, principal designer and owner of interior design firm, Avenue Design, says furniture size is essential to the flow of the room. JONATHAN NICHOLLS

When creating a knockout space with optimal function, flow and balance, selecting the right size of furniture is essential.

But, determining how big a sofa, chair or coffee table should be can stump many amateur designers.

"A lot of people make the basic mistake of either buying furniture too big or too small for the space," said Eva Healy, principal designer and owner of interior design firm, Avenue Design.

"Too big furniture won't make the most of the room and will create a bulky feel to the space, taking up the footprint without adding to the functionality of room," she said. "Furniture that is too small has the effect that everything is floating in the space and can look cluttered, as people try to make up for the fact that the room isn't filled by adding more pieces into it."

When approaching a new project, Julie Taylor, of Julie Taylor Interiors, says planning ahead saves plenty of headaches later. This means becoming good friends with your tape measure.

"If you can't get it through your door or down the staircase, you need to know now," she said.

"Also, map out the footprint of the furniture pieces you're considering. Use green painters tape on your floor, or create paper templates, so you'll know exactly how things will fit and if you'll have enough room to comfortably move around. Then go see the furniture pieces and try them out."

Meantime, Healy advises using a main piece, such as a sofa, as a focal point to anchor a room. Then, design from there, adding extra accent seating, a coffee table, and perhaps an ottoman.

"Think about the scale and proportion of the pieces you are looking for," Healy said.

"Remember that everything looks somewhat small in stores because they are sitting in a huge space with high ceilings," she said. "That same sofa or dining-room table that looks like the right size in the store might be too large in your own space once it's placed in an enclosed area with eight-foot ceilings."

Before perusing furniture and decor shops, take photographs of rooms being worked on and, if possible, go armed with a floor plan or dimensions, including the location and sizes of windows, a measuring tape, paint chips, and even flooring samples.

For those restyling on a budget, Taylor says even minor improvements can create a big impact, from a fresh coat of paint to eye-catching artwork, which she calls the "soul of the room."

While personal style is important, allowing aesthetic alone to be the main guide when purchasing an item can lead to a home-design flop.

"Keep the furniture neutral in colour, add pattern and texture in the area rug, accent pillows, artwork and drapery," said Taylor.

"These are items that can easily be changed out down the line but the expensive pieces withstand the test of time and whatever colour combo you want to do. Grey is still the go-to neutral as it's a clean starting point for both crisp whites and saturated colours, as well as jewel tones and beiges if you're more transitional or traditional in design aesthetic. There are many shades of grey, so keep in mind the accent colours you'll be using in the space and choose the right cool or warm grey to accommodate the general direction of the space."

Texture, patterns jazz up a space

Following years of minimalism, during which cool neutrals and subtle solids ruled the design scene, pattern is re-asserting itself. That's not surprising, given that geometrics, and motifs with flora and fauna have been cycling through home decor since we started painting on cave walls.

This spring, look for the emergence of jazzy wallpapers, embossed surfaces, architectural finishes, graphic pillows, and textiles embellished with embroidery.

Incorporating these decorative elements into a space can, however, pose a challenge for pattern-phobic homeowners.

In fact, accessories are the perfect way to introduce pattern, says design blogger Jennifer Flores, pointing to a spare room makeover she recently undertook.

"I thought about putting pattern in with wallpaper or moulding, but that felt like too big a commitment. I decided instead to use accessories," said Flores.

This spring is all about funky wallpapers, graphic pillows, and textiles embellished with embroidery. CONTRIBUTED

Another advantage to decorating with patterned pieces is that they can live in different rooms over time, says Flores.

"I think we are all more aware of not being such a disposable society. So I love the fact that you can use a blue patterned rug in a new room, and then move it to another space when you tire of it. All you need to do is bring in some other blue accessories for it to work. And it means you get a lot more longevity out of something you have invested in."

"Sometimes you fall in love with a pattern and want to put it everywhere, but it can be overwhelming if you don't change the scale and the tone."
Design blogger, Jennifer Flores

For those who are still pattern shy, Flores suggests that textured objects and textiles can perform a similar visual function.

"Texture can definitely play that role, especially textures that have that touchability," said Flores. "Think about velvet pillows and chunky throws. What makes a space memorable is when you engage as many senses as possible." VICKY SANDERSON

PAINT TRENDS

Moving toward whites and brights

Pretty and practical: pale, blush tones are dominating spring decor. CONTRIBUTED

Just as they ruled the runway last year, pale, blush tones are dominating home decor this spring. That's because they're both pretty and practical, says Sharon Grech, colour and design spokesperson for Benjamin Moore, which chose white as its colour of the year.

"It seemed like the right time," said Grech. "We've been lightening up over the past few years, with more and more pastels. You can't get more light than white!"

The move toward lighter colours and whites is partly a response to over-programmed lives, she suggests.

"There is no shortage of talk about simplifying our lives, and de-cluttering mentally as well as physically," said Grech. "There's nothing like white to give the idea of a blank slate, of starting over."

Not all whites are created equal, nor are they interchangeable, says Grech. The right white will depend on the direction the room faces, and what textiles, furniture and flooring it will have. VICKY SANDERSON

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metro SPORTS

"The last word we heard is he's retired": Tony McGregor to Ireland's Independent newspaper on his son Conor's supposed retirement from UFC

Waters makes splash with her first victory

GOLF

Qualicum Beach product also bags SFU a team title

Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

Members of the SFU Clan women's golf team douse water over Michelle Waters following her victory in a playoff Tuesday at the GNAC Women's Golf Championships. CONTRIBUTED

Michelle Waters had been waiting and working for that one big moment in her golf career.

It finally happened Tuesday, as the pride of Qualicum Beach battled through the nerves and drained a six-foot birdie putt on the first playoff hole to claim top spot on the individual leaderboard and help Simon Fraser University to a team title at the GNAC Women's Golf Championships at Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course in Idaho.

After shooting the low round, 3-over-par 74, for the opening day, Waters shot 6-over-par 77 in the final round, eventually finding herself in a playoff with St. Martin's University's Jennifer Liedes, who made a charge with a final round at even-par 71 on Tuesday.

Playing a 499-yard par 5, Liedes missed her birdie putt in the playoff, leaving Waters with a six-footer for the win. Waters, a 19-year-old sophomore, stepped up and sunk it for her first career win.

"I can't even describe it," she said. "It was incredible."

The long drive back to the border gave Waters plenty of time to ponder her triumph. It's exam time at SFU, and Waters has two finals scheduled for Thursday. But in between the stress of studying, she's let herself enjoy this.

> **I've been playing, I want to say mediocre, but knowing I can play so much better.**
> Michelle Waters

Waters has been playing golf since she was 14 years old, so winning for the first time is cause to reflect on her time in the sport.

She described ball striking as the biggest strength of her game, but the goal this summer is to spend more time on the practice greens, having noticed this spring season how putting was impacting her scores.

"I've been kind of in a weird place with golf. I've been playing, I want to say mediocre, but knowing I can play so much better," she said.

The Clan earned the team championship, doing so in record-setting fashion, with a two-round score of 617 — 49 over par — beating second-place Western Washington University by eight strokes. SFU's final team score beat the old record of 620, set by Western Washington in 2013.

The victory has given Waters a renewed sense of confidence.

"Honestly, I've been waiting for some kind of breakthrough."

NHL PLAYOFFS

Panthers scratch out win over Isles

GAME 4 In Brooklyn

PANTHERS	ISLANDERS
2	1

Alex Petrovic scored the tie-breaking goal midway through the third period and the Florida Panthers beat the New York Islanders 2-1 on Wednesday night to even their first-round playoff series at two games apiece.

Teddy Purcell also scored for Florida and Jaromir Jagr had an assist for his 200th career playoff point. Roberto Luongo stopped 26 shots.

John Tavares had his third goal of the series for New York, and Thomas Greiss finished with 27 saves.

The Panthers got their first playoff road win since April 17, 2012, against New Jersey in Game 3 of the first round.

Game 5 of the best-of-seven series is Friday night in Sunrise, Fla.

On the go-ahead goal, Petrovic got the puck up high near the middle, slowly skated to the right and fired a shot into the top left corner past Greiss to put the Panthers ahead 2-1 at 9:25 of the third.

Earlier Wednesday, Michal Neuvirth stopped 31 shots helping the Philadelphia Flyers stave off a sweep with a 2-1 win over the Washington Capitals.

The Capitals still lead the series 3-1 headed into Game 5 Friday night in Washington.

Shayne Gostisbehere and Andrew MacDonald each scored for the Flyers.

Neuvirth, making his first start of the series, was sensational in the third after T.J. Oshie scored early in the period to make it 2-1.

The Capitals still have never swept a best-of-seven playoff series. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Three-ball helps Cavs take 2-0 lead on Pistons

LeBron James scored 27 points, J.R. Smith made seven of Cleveland's NBA playoff record-tying 20 three-pointers, and the Cavaliers opened a 2-0 lead in their series with a 107-90 victory over the Detroit Pistons on Wednesday night.

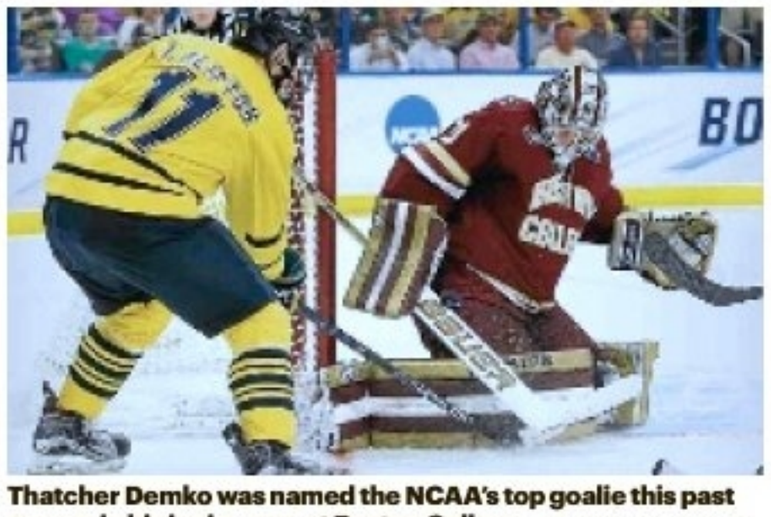
The top-seeded Cavs put away Pistons in the third quarter, outscoring them 27-15 to protect home-court advantage. Cleveland made 20 of 38 three-point attempts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Walker leads M's past Tribe

Taijuan Walker allowed just an unearned run over six innings, Norichika Aoki had a two-run triple in the second and the Seattle Mariners beat the Cleveland Indians 2-1 on Wednesday night.

Walker (1-0) held Cleveland to three hits and struck out six.

Danny Salazar (2-1) allowed two runs and three hits in seven innings, but his mistake to Aoki cost him the game. He also struck out seven. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Thatcher Demko was named the NCAA's top goalie this past season in his junior year at Boston College. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Relax, folks: Canucks sign Demko

The Vancouver Canucks have signed prized prospect goalie Thatcher Demko, following a period of angst from the fan base about potentially losing the 2014 second-round draft pick to free agency next summer.

Demko, 20, is coming off an impressive junior year at Boston College, helping lead the Eagles to an appearance in the NCAA Frozen Four. The Canucks signed him to a three-year entry-level contract.

With Ryan Miller about to enter the final year of his contract and Jacob Markstrom pushing to become the team's starter down the road, it's likely Demko begins next season with the Utica Comets in the AHL.

This past season, Demko posted a 27-8-4 record, with a .935 save percentage. He earned the 2016 Mike Richter Award as the top goalie in NCAA men's hockey and was a finalist for the Hobey Baker Award.

General manager Jim Benning said last week that he met with Demko's family during the Frozen Four, but admitted he didn't meet directly with Demko because Benning didn't want to disrupt his focus from the tournament.

Benning expressed confidence that the Canucks would sign Demko, but there seemed to be worry with some fans that it wouldn't happen.

Had Demko gone back to Boston College for his senior year, he could've then gone to free agency next summer. That would've left Vancouver without one of its top prospects.

Demko was also recently added to the Team USA roster for the upcoming world championships. CAM TUCKER/METRO

RECIPE Tuna White Bean Salad

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

We're the last people to jump on diet fads. Seriously. But if a person wanted to a low-carb dinner, this would be an excellent way to go.

Ready in
Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes

Ingredients
- 1 x 5 oz can of tuna
- 1 x 15 oz can of cannellini beans
- 1/4 cup red onion, diced fine
- 4 or 5 radishes, thinly sliced
- 8 or so cherry tomatoes, cut in half
- 1 bunch of arugula, washed, dried and trimmed
- 2 handfuls of fresh basil, washed, dried and trimmed
- 3 Tbsp lemon juice
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. In a large-ish bowl, mix together the tuna, beans and onions.

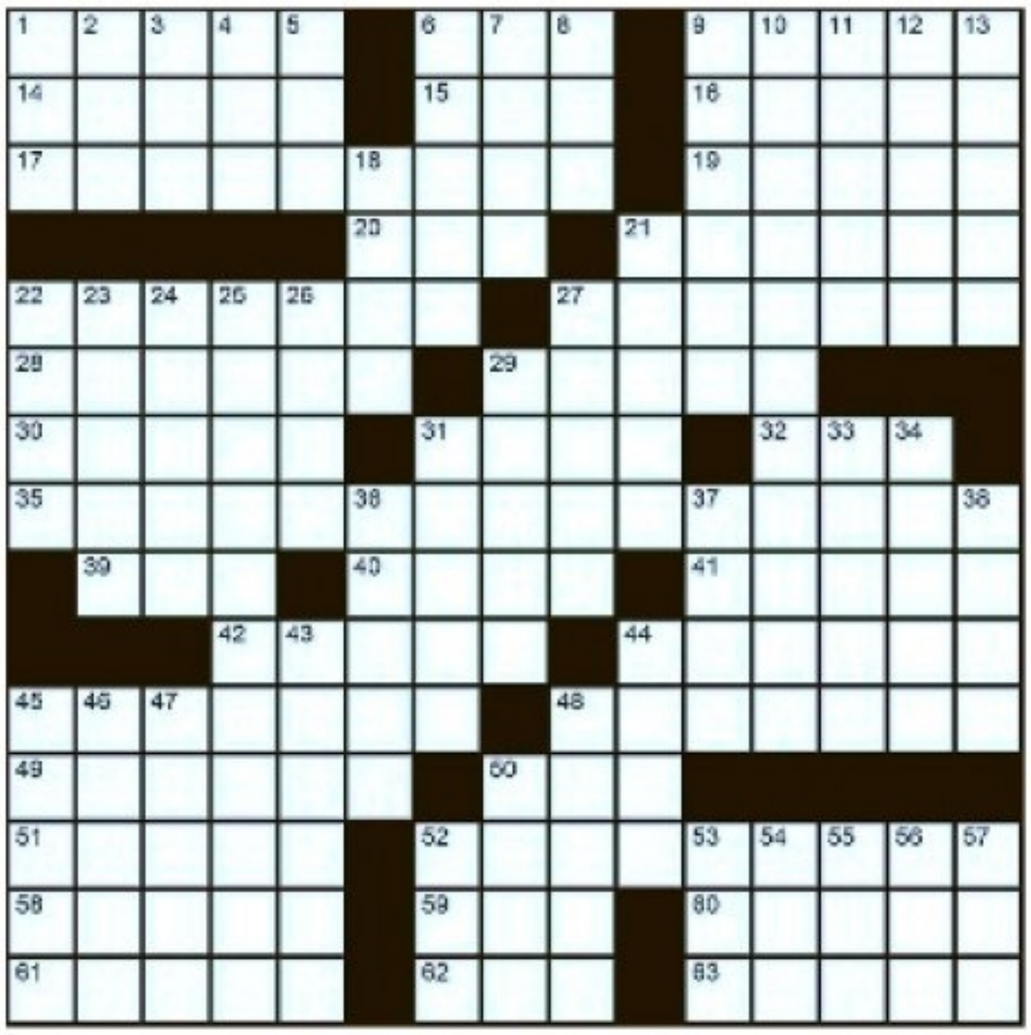
2. In a small bowl, whisk together the lemon juice and olive oil, pour it over your tuna and give a good mix. You don't want to lose all the texture of the tuna, so don't over do it. Taste it and see if you'd like some salt and pepper. Cover with cling film and chill for up to an hour. You can skip this step but it will enhance the flavour.

3. Now it's just an assembly job. You've got four plates. Lay out a handful of greens on each plate, a scoop of tuna deliciousness and then scatter tomatoes and radishes on top.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Curve
6. Crunched muscles, commonly
9. Alan and his actor father Robert
14. Upper Fort __ (Historical site in Manitoba)
15. Edgar Allan Who?
16. "Montreal" singer Mr. Maida
17. Journey all over
19. Guitarist's prop
20. Soaked
21. Most certain
22. White wine of France
27. So Green! So Vast! Canada has many, many, many of these
28. Stay
29. Element with the symbol B in chemistry
30. Run __ (Go wildly)
31. __ vera
32. Bien __, Vietnam
35. The Toronto Raptors play on one: 2 wds.
39. Clear
40. Liturgical vestments
41. Tweak
42. Hall & __
44. Actress Ms. Dahl
45. Wall __ (House walls decorator)
48. Song by Vancouver band 54-40: 2 wds.
49. Puffy dessert
50. Type or sort [abbr.]
51. Dermatologists treat them
52. Restaurant garnish as on a glass of Diet Pepsi: 2 wds.
58. Banal
59. __ and flow
60. Benefit
61. Vows
62. Second Cup serving
63. "__ Go 'Round the Roses": 1963 hit for The Jaynetts

DOWN
1. Mork from Ork's spacecraft, __-shaped
2. 'Bad'-meaning prefix
3. Jake to Maggie, for short
4. Globe
5. X's spelled-out follower
6. __-ski
7. Car trunk, in Britain
8. Adjust
9. Legendary conductor Mr. Toscanini (b.1867 - d.1957)
10. Actress who plays Dr. Betty Rogers on CTV crime drama "Motive": 2 wds.
11. Feeds
12. Build __ (Construct, bird-style)
13. Works by the Rockefeller Center muralist
18. Double
21. __-Tracy, Quebec
22. Grouch
23. Macho fellow
24. Create cheeriness
25. Where Canadian astronaut Chris Hatfield was headed in the Spring of 2013 upon completing his International Space Station mission: 3 wds.
26. Admire
27. Tricks
29. Spills the beans
31. More capable
33. Exterior
34. Domain
36. Spud
37. Bread, e.g.
38. Train, in Spain
43. Comes about
44. River to the Rhine [var. sp.]
45. Topping on pasta
46. Capital of Ghana
47. SVP = S'il vous __
48. "La __" by Ritchie Valens
50. Feeling
52. Rent
53. Existed
54. Ms. Longoria
55. NBA's Mavericks, on scoreboards
56. Canadian actor Mr. Bellows
57. Cathedral city

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Today's Full Moon very likely will bring financial issues to a head. Now you will have to decide whether it's time to hold or time to fold.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Today the only Full Moon opposite your sign all year is taking place. That's why you might feel increased tension with partners and close friends. Patience is your best ally today.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
The Full Moon today might create tension with co-workers. Look beyond today's tension, and demonstrate grace under pressure.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Of course, you feel the tension of today's Full Moon because the Moon is your ruler. Just go with the flow. This heightened emotional quality will be gone in 48 hours.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Today you feel the classic tug-of-war between trying to keep home and family happy versus trying to keep your job and career happy. You can't do both. (This time, you can't ignore your job.)

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Be careful, because this is an accident-prone day due to the heightened Full Moon energy. Pay attention to everything you say and do.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Financial matters might come to a head because of the Full Moon today. Fortunately, after the Full Moon peaks, things will resolve themselves.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Today the only Full Moon in your sign all year is taking place. Do what you can to stay mellow. Be patient with close friends and partners.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You have lots of energy with fiery Mars in your sign! Be careful, because today's Full Moon can create problems with others. Keep smiling, and be patient.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Issues with a group or perhaps with a personal friend might come to a head today. After the Full Moon peaks, you likely will bring things to a happy agreement.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Even though there are external demands on you today, you cannot ignore the demands of home. This feeling of being caught in a tug-of-war is due to the Full Moon today.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Do what you can to avoid accidents today, because the Full Moon energy is distracting. Stay focused and mindful of everything you say and do.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

		1	6					
		2		8				
4	9		2			5		
8		7						
	3			9			8	
						4		6
		9			2		6	7
				4		1		
					7	2		

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YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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4	9	6	2	1	3	8	5	7
8	5	1	6	9	7	3	4	2
3	2	7	4	5	8	6	9	1
2	4	3	5	7	6	1	8	9
6	7	8	1	4	9	2	3	5
5	1	9	8	3	2	7	6	4
1	8	4	3	2	5	9	7	6
7	3	5	9	6	1	4	2	8
9	6	2	7	8	4	5	1	3

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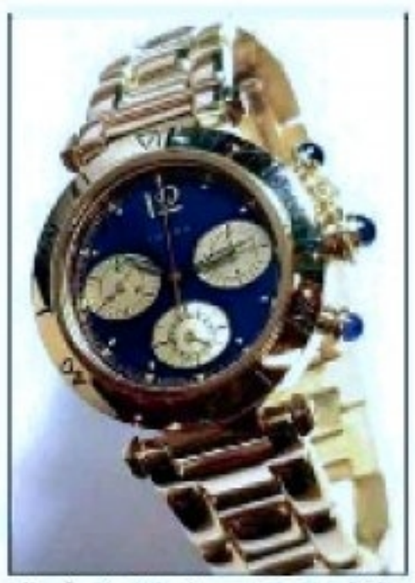

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18kt white gold diamond necklace $5,999.00

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